

I wish to register my sincere disquiet and objection to MVV's plans to build a waste incinerator in my home town of Wisbech in Cambridgeshire. I make the following objections:

1. Wisbech is a Georgian market town with 260 listed buildings, including houses and churches, all within a wind's breath of the proposed incinerator.
2. The proposed incinerator would have a chimney of 95 metres which, on the flat farmlands of the Fens, will be a monstrosity, without considering the particles it will belch out. One will be able to see it from approximately twelve miles away. Compare this to the 20.6m high Grade II\* listed statue we have in our town to commemorate the work of Thomas Clarkson, William Wilberforce and Granville Sharp, who all campaigned successfully against the slave trade in the 18th and 19th centuries.
3. MVV are advertising that there will be 300 lorry movements per day in relation to their proposed incinerator. There is a dearth of infrastructure in our area and all of our roads, apart from one small stretch of dual carriageway in town, are single carriageway. As a rural area with poor infrastructure, overtaking a slower moving vehicle, such as a lorry, would be dangerous and impossible. When the A47 is closed, as it frequently is due to accidents and when it is very busy with holiday traffic heading to the coast, there is a log jam in and around Wisbech, as traffic cuts through the town because it cannot go around it. We are in the artery, linking the Midlands to the Coast. The proposed extra lorry movements will have a significant and detrimental impact on both our traffic flow and air quality.
4. Traffic is very slow on and around the A47/A1101 roundabout at Elme Hall which leads into and out of Wisbech. This would highly likely be the route of the lorries carrying waste. Additional traffic would put it at a standstill.
5. Wisbech is 25 miles from a major road A1(M) outside Peterborough. Wisbech is not served by dual carriageways or major roads.
6. The A47 requires major improvement and dual carriageways. Traffic is already busy at the proposed location, with its entrance from its feeder road, Weasenhams Lane, being opposite the town's largest secondary school. Traffic gets gridlocked now, particularly when a sink hole opens up in Weasenhams Lane, which closes the road.
7. The proposed location for the proposed incinerator is on a flood plain, known as Virginia Waters/Lake, before it was partially drained and built on. Note, it has only been partially drained.
8. From attending a public meeting before the Covid-19 outbreak, where my MP, Stephen Barclay, was present and spoke, I understand that MVV has been very selective in which particles they have declared are emitted by their incinerators. The quantity of fine particulate matter, PM 2.5, has not been disclosed. This sized particle is able to reach deep into the respiratory system, into the lungs and even into the blood stream. While a small exposure to these particles may be harmful but temporary, us residents of Wisbech and surrounds will be constantly breathing them in. According to information from the British Lung Foundation, the particles can cause asthma, COPD, coronary heart disease, strokes and lung cancer. There is also evidence that breathing in PM 2.5 particles is linked to diabetes, low birth weight, Parkinson's and Alzheimer's diseases.
9. Apart from this appalling fact, other pollution must be considered. Wisbech is located in Fenland, on drained marsh land. The area where MVV proposes to build its incinerator is actually a flood plain. MVV cannot guarantee that our water table will not be polluted by its incinerator.
10. Bearing in mind the particulates, shockingly, within 3 miles of the proposed incinerator, you will find:
  - [ ] 2 large secondary schools
  - [ ] 2 SEN schools
  - [ ] a Further Education college
  - [ ] 16 primary schools
  - [ ] More than a dozen childcare nurseries

- [ ] Dozens of clean, local businesses

- [ ] Hundreds of residential properties

The health of pre-school and school children, workers, business owners, customers and residents must be considered a huge priority. Residents will be breathing in the particulates 24/7 and children at school aged 2-18 for 8+ hours per day. Anybody living or working nearby will be breathing in the deadly, particulate-laden emissions.

11. Wisbech is surrounded by agricultural farmland. Any particles, which fall on to the ground, will be absorbed by the soil where food is grown. The proposed incinerator, as you will see on a map, has tens of thousands of acres of farmland all very close by.

12. The consultation carried out by MVV did not consider neighbouring parishes, which fell out of the Cambridgeshire area. The Local Authority areas not consulted, include East Cambridgeshire and West Norfolk. The closest West Norfolk village to the site, Emneth, lies 2.9 miles from the proposed incinerator site.

When considering MVV's proposal, please imagine yourself and your family living in our town, having the incinerator on your doorstep and breathing in its emissions.